

Lesson: Friendship	Comic: 5
Overview of Key Skills Making links between texts and contexts Demonstrating quality of written communication	Cross-curricular links PHSE SMSC
Learning Objectives:	To explore ideas and reflect on feelings through discussion with others To explore the concept of best friends in response to newspaper article To consider a range of attitudes towards friendships To prepare for and argue a personal point of view
Key Teaching Points / Research Opportunities	Discuss acrostic poems. Recap formal letters.
Independent Work	<p>Task 1 Write the first time you met your best friend and describe your friendship. You can use the planner below as a starting point to help you plan your ideas. Try to make your descriptions vivid and interesting! You could include humour and anecdotes to appeal to your reader.</p> <p>Task 2 Use the letters in 'best friend' to write an acrostic poem about your best friend.</p> <p>Task 3 Create a leaflet 'How to be a Best Friend'. This will be a guide to being a best friend. Think about, and include, the skills and qualities that a best friend should have.</p> <p>Task 4 Read Source A. Write a letter to the Head referred to in the article, giving your personal opinion about the views he has expressed. Present reasoned argument to support your thoughts.</p>
Plenary	For each task: Share your work with your family/group and listen to their feedback Ask them how you could improve your work Redraft if necessary

Resources, including ICT	Comic 5 Planner Source A
Key Questions	Is each task completed in the appropriate style and tone? Is my argument clear and reasoned?
Vocabulary	Acrostic Key vocabulary in article
Success Criteria	To demonstrate quality of written communication To present a clear, reasoned personal opinion
Assessment Opportunities	Completed tasks Feedback from readers

Planner - My friend

What is your friend like?

Try to include characteristics and personality traits rather than just describing appearance.

Can you tell an anecdote or give examples of things that make them such a good friend?

What makes them a good friend?

How did you meet?

Where and when?

Be descriptive, include as much detail as possible.

When did you become close friends?

What in particular made you realise you could be friends?

How did your friendship develop?

Was there a turning point that made you realise that you would become close friends? What was this event? What was said/done?

Why will your friendship last?

Try to explain how you see your friendship developing in the future?

Why do you think some friendships end? Why won't this happen to yours?

SOURCE A

CHILDREN SHOULDN'T HAVE BEST FRIENDS PRIVATE SCHOOL HEAD ARGUES

Young children should not have best friends because it could leave others feeling ostracised and hurt, the headmaster of a leading prep school has said. Instead they should be encouraged to have 'lots of good friends' to avoid overly possessive relationships and upsetting fall-outs.

Some parents of pupils at Thomas's private day school in Battersea, South-West London, have been told that their children cannot have best friends, The Telegraph understands. Ben Thomas, the school's headmaster, said there was no official policy to that effect but he supported the idea.

He said: "There is sound judgement behind it. You can get very possessive friendships, and it is much easier if they share friendships and have a wide range of good friends rather than obsessing too much about who their best friend

Parents and nannies collecting pupils from the school on Wednesday were divided on the idea of discouraging children from having best friends, with some describing it as 'ridiculous' while others welcomed it.

'You have to have best friends, it is all part of learning the ways of life,' said one, who declined to be named. 'I left school years ago but some of my best friends today are ones I made when I was quite young. That is just silly, not having best friends.'

But another parent, who did not want to give her name, said: 'I think it is sensible, particularly in London where there is so much movement. We have all seen the disappointment when a "best friend" leaves. It is much better if they have a good range of friends.'